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# The Hongkong Telegraph

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## Harbour To Be Clear Of Wrecks

### PALESTINE

#### Compromise Partition Plan Report

London, Feb. 5. An informed Government source said that the British Cabinet had decided to impose a compromise partition-federation plan on Palestine.

No official statement was forthcoming from No. 10 Downing Street.

The informant said that the new plan, which may be laid before Arab and Jewish representatives later on Tuesday, would divide Palestine into Arab and Jewish territories with overall control held at least temporarily by the mandatory power of Britain.

Both the Arabs and Jews previously rejected partition as a means of settling the Palestinian strife.

Jewish Agency representatives held an emergency session to consider an ultimatum demanding the Agency to co-operate in stamping out violence in the Holy Land.

Arab officials flatly rejected any move to partition Palestine in face of a report that the British Cabinet had already decided to divide the Holy Land into Arab and Jewish states with Britain remaining temporarily in control.

The Arabs' stand was taken at the meeting with British officials at which the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Bevin, disclosed he would have "something to communicate" within a few days.

An unofficial spokesman said the Palestine conference probably would end after Bevin had made his forthcoming announcement.—Associated Press.

### JEWISH AGENCY ANGRY

Jerusalem, Feb. 4. The Jewish Agency, in an official statement to-day, took "strong exception" to the announcement by the Palestine Government that the Agency's recent resolutions only "purported to condemn terrorism."

The Agency's statement said that there was "no warrant whatsoever for the implication of insincerity."

The Palestine Government in its ultimatum to the Agency last night, calling for Jewish aid in hunting down terrorists, declared "in spite of a recent resolution purporting to condemn bloodshed and terrorism, there have been few signs that any action was contemplated by the Jewish authorities or community to make use of the only means available for the enforcement of law and order, namely security forces."

"In fact, the Jewish Agency has now openly refused its co-operation with the Government in this matter," the Jewish Agency's statement says.

The Jewish Agency Executive has received a letter from the Chief Secretary of yesterday's date.

The letter was immediately communicated to the members of the Executive in London, New York and Washington and a reply will be sent in due course.

"The Executive therefore does not propose at this stage to enter into the very grave matters contained in this letter but it cannot refrain from taking strong exception to the statement that recent resolutions adopted by the Jewish authorities merely 'purported to condemn bloodshed and terrorism' because it possessed no power to enforce them."

There is no warrant whatsoever for this implied charge of insincerity."

—Reuter.

### EVACUATION GOES ON

Jerusalem, Feb. 5. Evacuation convoys of the British women and children rolled out of the (Continued on Page 4)

### EDITORIAL

#### Away With The Wrecks!

SLOWLY perhaps, but certainly perceptibly, the visual reminders of the war are being removed from the angry eyes of Hongkong's residents. First came the immediate rehabilitation tasks—the tidying up of thoroughfares and the cleansing of polluted lanes and alleyways; later the gradual clearing of bombed and shelled building sites; then, very much more recently, the job of obliterating the Japanese war memorial, on which marked progress has been made. Now, through this paper, comes the disclosure that the Government, together with the naval authorities are going ahead clearing the harbour of wrecks.

To some people, the daily sight of war-time wrecks littered around the harbour has made them more infuriated than the omnipresent Jap memorial, and from time to time, members of the public have subscribed to the newspapers their impatience at the delay in removing these unsightly impediments. Now that the work is in hand, it is, perhaps, as well to offer a reminder why its initiation did not come earlier and why its progress has not been very spectacular. Government could not assume the task during the first twelve months of reoccupation because it possessed no salvaging equipment or facilities. The Royal Navy went ahead and cleared up the wrecks that were a direct menace to shipping; but their responsibility could never be expected to go beyond naval anchorage limits. What is more, from the civil government's point of view there has long been more pressing problems related to harbour rehabilitation—the relaying of buoys and the reinstatement of shipping lanes which would enable the harbour once again to become fully open to vessels of all sorts and sizes.

The public, undoubtedly, will be happy to know that the work of clearing the wrecks is now fully in hand. It will appreciate too, the obvious wisdom of first removing obstructions that at the present time, pose facilities. It is due course the ships that today mar the harbour view with their protruding masts and funnels and their half-turtled hulls will be gone, and with them, unpleasant reminders of unpleasant times.

#### Gruner Case: New Move

Jerusalem, Feb. 4. Asher Levitsky, lawyer for Dov Gruner, Jewish terrorist under sentence of death, to-day received permission from the Palestine Supreme Court to communicate privately with the Privy Council in London and at once to send a cable.

The Court rejected the application for leave to appeal to the Privy Council against the decision of the Jerusalem High Court yesterday, which refused to grant an order to stay the execution.

Gruner, on whose fate, British and Jews here say, the immediate issue of security in Palestine hinges, withdrew his decision to appeal to the Privy Council against the death sentence on the personal order of Menahem Beigin, chief of the Irgun Zvai Leumi terrorists, it was learned last night.—Reuter.

#### Threat Of Famine

#### Viet Nam Warning

Hanoi, Feb. 4. A threat of famine among the Viet Namhese in Indo-China was indicated in a radio broadcast by Cu Huy Can, Under Secretary of State for Agriculture, in Dr. Ho Chi Minh's Viet Namhese Republic, a semi-official French despatch from Saigon stated to-day.

"With an eye to prolonged resistance," Cu Huy Can said, "it is necessary to keep up and increase the gigantic efforts accomplished by the Viet Namhese people in 1946 to triumph over famine."

The French Commissioners for five provinces of Indo-China met in Saigon to-day for the second day of talks on the lighting with Viet Namhese (Indo-Chinese nationalists) troops, which has raged since before Christmas.

The talks, which began yesterday under the presidency of Admiral Thierry d'Argeville, French High Commissioner, are expected to last several days.

Meanwhile, Mr. Trevor Wilson, the British Consul in Hanoi, was to-day taking part in the first meeting between the International Red Cross and Viet Namhese troops. The talks were arranged to discuss the release of French and foreign hostages, and were being held at a secret meeting place.

With Mr. Wilson was Mr. Charles Aeschliman, Swiss International Red Cross supervisor for South-east Asia. He had travelled specially for the meeting from Singapore.

The vanguard of the French Foreign Legion, which is moving towards Huie, in Annam, has linked with other French forces in that area, a semi-official despatch from Saigon reported to-day.

Mme. Jacquemart, a Belgian woman who has been held as hostage by the Viet Namhese since December 19 last year has been released, according to another French report received here to-day. The negotiations for her release were opened a month ago by the British, United States and Chinese Consuls in Hanoi, and were taken up recently by the delegate of the International Red Cross for South-east Asia.—Reuter.

## In 21 Months

### GOVERNMENT & NAVY ON SALVAGE WORK

In less than two years from now, the commercial port area of Hongkong's harbour will be clear of wrecked ships—morbidity hang-over from World War II.

Both the Hongkong Government and the British naval authorities are now busy on the task of salvaging these wrecks, the Harbour Master (Mr. J. Jolly) told the "Telegraph" to-day.

First job is to clear the commercial port of wrecks which are not only a danger to shipping, but which, in certain cases, are a handicap to dockyard facilities.

A certain amount of salvaging was carried out by the naval authorities in the early days of reoccupation, said Mr. Jolly.

More recently the Hongkong Government made arrangements with the Admiralty to charter two lifting craft and the crane ship, Seisho Maru, on the "bare boat" basis, which means that government pays for the crews, fuel and other operating costs.

The two lifting craft were taken over two months ago; the Seisho Maru will be taken over during this month.

The arrangement is that the Hongkong Government will be responsible for clearing the commercial port and the naval authorities the man-of-war anchorages. The proportion of work is 60 Hongkong Government to 40 naval authorities.

The first of the government's salvaging tasks is now almost completed—the lifting of a wreck lodged under the 400-ton crane at the Kowloon Dock.

When that has been done two wrecks which are fouling the lifting out yard at Taitao Dockyard will be lifted.

These jobs have been given No. 1 priority because they will enable the port repair facilities to be employed to better advantage.

Not all of the wrecks will be raised, because it will be technically impossible to do so, said Mr. Jolly. Where they cannot be raised they will be dispersed, by explosives, and the parts brought up from the harbour piecemeal by the crane ship.

The tanker which is lying on its side at the western end of the harbour will be righted and then brought up by lifting craft.

Mr. Jolly disclosed that within the harbour limits there are about 11 major wrecks to be salvaged, and the work will be shared by the Hongkong Government and the naval authorities.

Capt. Doust, C.B.E., who was formerly Salvage Officer, Royal Navy, is now acting as Salvage Adviser to the Hongkong Government.

When the various craft have been raised, they will be offered to their rightful owners in return for the cost

of salvage. If this offer is not accepted, government will realise what it can from sale of scrap and fittings, and in some cases, even the hull, to meet the costs of salvaging.

It is estimated that the cost of recovering and removing the wrecks will be about \$1,000,000, a part of which is expected to be recovered either through salvage charges or through sale of the wrecks.

Permission for spending the million dollars on the work has been obtained from the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Mr. Jolly said that when the commercial port had been cleared, work on lifting wrecks outside of the harbour limits would be carried out. But this was not urgent as the wrecks were no danger to shipping.

Furthermore, there was nothing to prevent owners of these wrecks from making their own arrangements for salvaging. However, at the present time, the Government possessed the only salvage craft, and he doubted whether it would be worth anyone's expense to bring salvage equipment from Australia.

### SIGNIFICANT TRIPS BY CHIANG

Nanking, Feb. 5. Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek made another inspection trip by air to China's war front as the impression grew in the capital that the Government had abandoned all hope of compromise with the Communists.

There was every indication that Chiang had ordered a full-scale general offensive to reopen disrupted communication lines and drive the Reds from key areas.

Only on Sunday Chiang visited the Hsichow base in Shantung province, where Government columns were converging on the important Communist centre of Linli. To-day he flew to Chengchow, his Army headquarters in Honan province, and conferred with top commanders. He returned to Nanking at nightfall.

The Generalissimo's personal interests in the civil war underscored accelerating pace of hostilities since General Marshall left.—Associated Press.

### TO STAY SILENT

Washington, Feb. 4. The House Foreign Affairs Committee to-day unanimously rejected proposed legislation demanding complete information as to why the United States decided to withdraw American troops from China.

It acted after receiving a letter from General George Marshall promising his fullest co-operation with Congress. Legislation demanding more complete information was introduced by Representative Edith Nourse Rogers, Marshall's letter was in reply to one from the chairman, Charles A. Eaton, asked for his views on the Committee-resolution calling for a study of the State Department and enunciating the desire to follow a bi-partisan policy in international matters. The Committee's resolution had invited Marshall to co-operate with the Committee in its aims. He replied, "Let me say immediately that I will be glad to accept the invitation of the Committee."

On behalf of the President and myself I fully reciprocate the Committee's desire to achieve bi-partisan co-operation," Marshall said.

Chairman Clare Hoffman of the Executive Expenditures Committee had previously hinted that his committee was interested in looking into the State Department. He repeated what he called "don't stick your nose into the State Department" dictum from the Foreign Affairs Committee.—United Press.

### Burnt-Out Steamer



Worst fire disaster ever to occur in Hongkong harbour caused the partial destruction of the river steamer SAI ON yesterday, with the death toll 124 up to last night. Picture shows a fireman playing on the smouldering ruins of the ship's superstructure.—Ming Yuen.

### STALIN REJECTS DECORATION

Paris, Feb. 4. Generalissimo Stalin has refused the French Military Medal—the highest French military decoration—the French Foreign Office announced to-night.

In a note to the French Government, Generalissimo Stalin, after thanking France for the gesture, said: "Since Lenin it has been contrary to tradition that the leader of the Soviet Government, or any minister, should accept a foreign decoration."

Less than a month ago General Charles de Gaulle refused the same decoration on grounds that he was being awarded it on the basis of what he had accomplished as leader of the country and that it was not in order for a government chief to accept a decoration which in effect he himself awarded.—Reuter.

### SNOW-BOUND YORKSHIRE

London, Feb. 4. Four rail workers collapsed near Manchester to-day from the severe cold and one of them was reported seriously ill. At Whitby, Yorkshire, a young real estate agent from London and his wife were feared lost in a snowstorm in which they disappeared late yesterday.

Showdrifts 15 to 20 feet deep outside Sheffield paralysed all food distribution and rail traffic. Coal supplies in many homes had become critically short.

Sub-freezing weather forced the abandonment of all open cast mining in South Yorkshire.

While some areas experience the worst blizzards in a generation, the sun blazed down upon Penzance in the southwest, where primroses and snowdrops bloomed.

Dozens of coal trucks between Yorkshire and the industrial Midlands were buried deep in the snow while their drivers sought refuge in neighbouring villages.—United Press.

### SAI ON INQUIRY

#### Decision Announced

An inquiry into the SAI ON disaster will be held in a few weeks time.

This was disclosed by the Harbour Master Mr. J. Jolly, this morning.

No further bodies have been recovered from the burnt-out river steamer since late last night, although firemen believe there may still be some under debris which they have not yet been able to comb.

Fire Brigade officials are still not in a position to state the cause of the fire.

### UNDERGROUND MOVEMENT

#### General's Warning

Stuttgart, Feb. 4. Lt. Gen. Lucius Clay, Deputy Commander of the U. S. Army in Germany, told the press to-day that the time has come for American authorities in Germany to begin worrying about the organised underground movement.

Gen. Clay's statement came when he was questioned about recent charges of underground activities contained in a report by the International Committee for European Questions. High ranking military authorities had previously denied that any organised German underground movement existed.

"I would be the last to deny the possibility that Nazi-sponsored subversive groups may exist in the American Zone," Gen. Clay said in his surprise statement. "Actually the time has just now arrived when we should begin to worry about such underground groups."—United Press.

## BIG FOUR DEFER 3 POINTS

### German Treaty

London, Feb. 4.

The Big Four Foreign Ministers' deputies for Germany to-day decided: Firstly, to defer, at the request of the Soviet Ambassador, Mr. Gusev, discussion of the reply to be sent by the deputies to the Italian request to be heard on the German treaty.

Secondly, to defer discussion of the communication received from the Inter-Alied Reparations Agency in order to give Mr. Gusev time to study the text.

Thirdly, to defer study of the report from the Draft Committee of the skeleton plan of the deputies' eventual report to the Foreign Ministers. Mr. Gusev had no Russian text of this report.

The deputies received a communication from the Luxembourg Government that the Luxembourg delegation would arrive to-morrow afternoon in London. It is expected to present a memorandum on Germany in the next few days and will be heard orally on Thursday.

Discussion of the French memorandum on procedure, which had been expected to-day, was not reached and will probably take place to-morrow.

To-day's session of the German deputies was almost entirely devoted to the hearing of the New Zealand statement presented by the New Zealand High Commissioner, Mr. W. J. Jordan. After Mr. Jordan had read his Government's memorandum, he was asked a number of questions, principally by Mr. Gusev and Mr. Robert Murphy, of the United States. Mr. Jordan undertook to refer the questions on the extent of Allied control in Germany to his Government, or for a more precise answer.

Mr. Patrick Dean, head of the German Department of the Foreign Office, to-day deputised for Sir William Strang as British delegate. Sir William, who is in Berlin, is expected back in London to-morrow.

### N. ZEALAND OPINION

New Zealand, whose views on Germany were reflected to-day by the German deputies at Lancaster House, made several original contributions to the sum total of Allied opinion, which has accumulated from the hearing of Allied views.

Firstly, in urging that a careful study should be given to "detaching and placing under international control certain areas vital to the German war potential" she became the first of the lesser powers to support the French theory that the Ruhr should be detached and internationally controlled if Europe is to be made secure against renewed aggression.

Secondly, in recommending that "long overdue land reforms," which have not been carried out under the occupation should be imposed as treaty obligations. New Zealand implicitly criticises failure to carry out these reforms in the British Zone, thus echoing recent Soviet criticisms on the same subject.

Thirdly, in calling on the Big Four to distribute essential information and documentation to the allies, New Zealand is adopting a line identical to the recommendation made in the French memorandum on procedure, which is expected to be discussed to-morrow.—Reuter.

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George Bernard  
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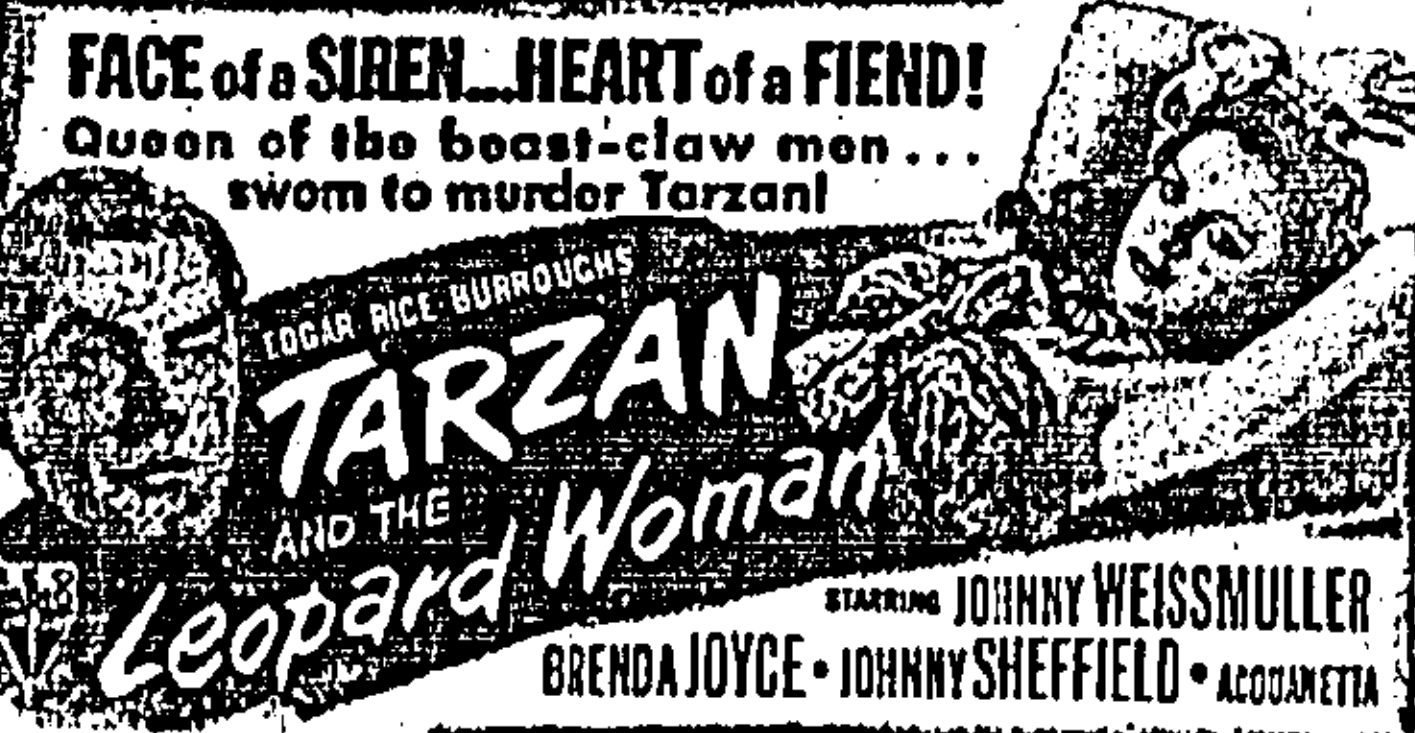
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**"BLACK SWAN"**

with: Thomas MITCHELL • George SANDERS  
A 20th Century-Fox Picture

POCKET CARTOON



WILLIAM HICKEY

## Grief & Grievance

DISGRACING London are ghouls who batten on private grief.

Case-hardened to all decency, these smarties pester the bereaved.

They phone, write or call, trying with unctuous sympathy to rush through a deal while misery still saps resistance and weakens argument.

Consider one case which happened recently.

The day a widower published the announcement of his loss three estate agents rang up to inquire if the house was for sale.

BEFORE the funeral took place two jewellers, three second-hand clothes dealers and two furniture dealers had written or called, another estate agent pestered by telephone.

Silence of the letters emphasising "discretion" and "nobody will know" was revolting. Having a man to deal with, callers left without ceremony: a widow is easier game.

Surely this is the lowest form of money grubbing in a world full of rackets.

G.P.O. record room has found the original minute authorising the addition of three cats to the staff. This is the precedent for feeding post office cats from official funds.

Dated 1888, it reads:—

"Three cats may be allowed on probation. They must undergo a test examination. It is important that the cats be not overfed, and I cannot allow more than 1s. a week for their support. They must depend on mice for the remainder of their emoluments."

SPECULATION about designs for really new cars seems agreed that the next motoring milestone will be goodbye to the gear-box.

Gearless cars—accelerator and brake pedals only—are now being built in Britain as well as in America, and the lead is bound to be followed when more manufacturers have to stop exporting prewar models and can get around to planning something new.

The development is overdue: it was long before the war when I helped to show the paces of a gearless car for the first time to British Association engineers in Cambridge, nearly went through the windscreen when the determined-to-be-thorough young president of the university motor club unexpectedly stood on everything at 70 m.p.h. to try to stall the engine.

But I am old enough to have a sneaking regret for the gear-box before it was simplified by synchromesh.

That wonderful glow of satisfaction following a snappy change-down belongs to the nearly forgotten days when motoring was fun.

THE Stationery Office has issued a new "Register" of Temporary Laws now in force.

The first one was passed in 1781 to set up the Bank of Ireland.

Temp O'Rary?

COLLECTED by reader J. BRIGHT, of Plymouth:—  
Suit diplomat—Cheyne-gardens, Chelsea, glorious luxury house. Adam mantles and period staircase. Central heating.

As nobody seems to know what's going on in Russia, here is your Uncle Nat, always willing to oblige, with a little thing entitled "Behind the Iron Curtain."

It is evening in Plonsk and snow is piled high outside The Three Merry Moujiks, an ancient tavern once burned down with everybody in it by Ivan the Terrible because the beer was flat.

Inside the tavern three men are seated round the stove. They are Sergei Kiboutsoq, comedian, Ivan Ananoch, local bar fly, and Peter Pushkhebozoff, would-be merry moujik.

Sergei: One mustn't make a joke now unless it is passed by the Kremlin.

Ivan: It is lucky Stalin has a sense of humour.

Sergei: He has not passed any of my jokes.

Ivan: That's what I mean.

Peter: Ha ha. That is very funny. Ha ha.

Sergei: Shut up, you fool.

Peter: I have sold all my eggs in the black market. Another vodka all round.

Ivan: Make them doubles.

Sergei: I wonder what they are doing now in the decadent democracies?

Ivan: The decadent Americans are eating three meat meals a day.

Sergei: In decadent England the Prime Minister Atlee eats less than the coal miner, the fisherman, and the sort who works on the land.

Ivan: They say that even the Minister of Food in decadent England eats less than the common workman.

Sergei: What's the use of being Minister of Food if you can't eat more than anybody else?

Ivan: Ha ha. That is very funny, too. Ha ha.

Sergei: Shut up, you cled.

Peter: I have sold all my pigs to the Secret Police. Let's have another vodka all round.

Ivan: Make them doubles.

Sergei: So what am I to do? I mustn't make any jokes about the regime which, you must admit, would make people laugh if their half empty stomachs were not awash with cabbage soup.

Ivan: You can still make jokes about the decadent democracies.

Sergei: But I have done it so often. People do not laugh any more at my very funny sketches of a drunken English lord beating his starving gardener to death in his moated castle.

Ivan: Try a funnier one of the kind wife of an American millionaire beating her husband to death because he can't buy her another luxury yacht.

Peter: Ha ha. That is too funny for words. Ha ha.

Sergei: Quiet, hayseed.

Peter: I have sold all my milk to the Minister of Agriculture. Let's have another vodka all round.

Ivan: Make them doubles.

(Enter an officer of the Secret Police).

Altogether: Good evening, sir. What a terrible night, sir. Take your coat off, sir. Have a drink, sir. Sit down, sir.

Officer: Stay where you are.

Rupert and Ninky—27



Rupert wanders about disconsolately in the snow telling Edward all about his troubles, but Ninky has gone "disappeared," so he trudges home and sadly tells his mother the whole disappointing story. "I did so want to find out why he jumped," he whispers. "Well, I shouldn't cry about it," says Mrs. Bear. "You still may find out where he has gone, and why. If the little plane took him away the little plane may bring him back again. So cheer up. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED."

# Sitting on the Fence

by NATHANIEL GUBBINS

Sergei: I was just saying how wise it is of the Kremlin to censor jokes made about our splendid regime.

Ivan: Anybody who dares to criticise the glorious regime deserves to go to Siberia.

Officer: That's where they go.

Peter: Ha ha. That is very funny. Ha ha.

Officer: Pipe down, moujik.

Sergei: We were saying how terrible it must be in the decadent democracies.

Ivan: Compared to the wonderful freedom and plenty for all in our kindly and benevolent Mother Russia.

Officer: The microphone knows what you said.

Sergei: The microphone?

Ivan: The microphone?

Officer: The one behind your head.

Peter: Ha....

All: Shut up, will you?

Officer to Sergei: So. For the next few years you can try to be funny in Siberia. (To Ivan): And for the next few years you can try to find a bar in a salt mine.

Peter: Ha ha. This is too funny. Let's have another vodka all round.

Officer: Because you sold all your pigs to the Secret Police?

## Fan mail

THIS week's criticism from my persistent correspondent who always begins his letters "Dear Pig" is as follows:—

Dear Pig,  
I see you never miss a chance to attack dogs as you did about the St Bernards biting a girl on a mountain.

You are doing yourself no good by these cowardly attacks on man's best friend as everybody knows that only nice men like dogs and vice versa. It is the same with children.

WELL, dear Pig, I would like to point out first that on this occasion I did not attack dogs. The dogs attacked a girl. I did no more than express sorrowful surprise that dogs of such high reputation could betray the trust placed in them.

Regarding your other point that "only nice men like dogs and vice versa." I think this is debatable.

Without going into the well-worn argument that dogs are popular because they flatter the vanity of repressed people who cannot attract love or command obedience from any other creature, all the evidence seems to prove that crooks, cads, saints and murderers alike are all capable of loving dogs, who love them sometimes for the reason given above, but more often because they find dogs companionable, amusing and foolish. Particularly because they are foolish.

It is also true that dogs bestow their affections impartially on the said crooks, cads, saints and murderers. This may be because dogs do not judge us as men judge us. Crimes against society mean nothing to them. What is more important is that they do not judge us by any standard, not even by our behaviour towards them. They can show equal devotion to those who treat them well and to those who treat them badly.

Why, dear Pig, dogs even like me. Although I am no nicer and not much milder than the average man, I have tried, without being downright rude, to show dogs that I have no use for their society.

When they follow me about, as they often do, I have tried to ignore them. Relying on their famed intelligence I have sometimes bent down and told them in the plainest possible terms that I don't like being followed about. They have only wagged their tails and continued to follow me about.

When they have licked my hand I have tried to conceal my nausea, if only to spare their feelings. Once when a dog licked my hand I washed it in front of the dog, hoping it would see the point. But when I had dried my hand on the towel the fool only licked it again.

All of which seems to indicate, dear Pig, that dogs are not only hopeless judges of character, incapable of criticising us, but are hopelessly unsensible, a sure sign that they are also too stupid and insensitive to criticise themselves.

As for children, they can grow fond of any man who will play games with them and keep them amused. They wouldn't care if he had just cheated a widow out of her inheritance or murdered his grandmother.

In fact I will go further. I will say that they would prefer a man who had just murdered his grandmother.

## Inconstant reader

"YOU are Mr Gubbins, aren't you?"

"Yes."

"The one that writes for the News of the World?"

"No."

## According To Culbertson

(Copyright, 1947, by Ely Culbertson)

East had the chance to make a very fine defensive play in to-day's deal, but hebit was too strong for him.

North, dealer.

North-South vulnerable.

NORTH			
♦ K 7 5			
♥ A 3			
♠ A K J			
♣ Q J 10 9 4			
WEST			EAST
♠ 8 6 4 2		♦ J 10 3	
♥ 7 5		♠ K Q J 6 2	
♣ 7 6 4 3		♥ Q 6 2	
♦ A 7 5		♠ K 8	
SOUTH			
♦ A Q 9			
♥ A 10 8			
♠ Q 10 8			
♣ 8 8 2			

The bidding:

North: 1♣, 2♦, 3♥, 4♠, 5♣, 6♦, 7♥, 8♠, 9♣, 10♦, 11♥, 12♠, 13♣, 14♦, 15♥, 16♠, 17♣, 18♦, 19♥, 20♠, 21♣, 22♦, 23♥, 24♠, 25♣, 26♦, 27♥, 28♠, 29♣, 30♦, 31♥, 32♠, 33♣, 34♦, 35♥, 36♠, 37♣, 38♦, 39♥, 40♠, 41♣, 42♦, 43♥, 44♠, 45♣, 46♦, 47♥, 48♠, 49♣, 50♦, 51♥, 52♠, 53♣, 54♦, 55♥, 56♠, 57♣, 58♦, 59♥, 60♠, 61♣, 62♦, 63♥, 64♠, 65♣, 66♦, 67♥, 68♠, 69♣, 70♦, 71♥, 72♠, 73♣, 74♦, 75♥, 76♠, 77♣, 78♦, 79♥, 80♠, 81♣, 82♦, 83♥, 84♠, 85♣, 86♦, 87♥, 88♠, 89♣, 90♦, 91♥, 92♠, 93♣, 94♦, 95♥, 96♠, 97♣, 98♦, 99♥, 100♠.

South's jump to two no trump was a trifle aggressive, but he felt that one no trump was far too weak a bid. A penalty double was perhaps his best bet, and this course would have netted him a safe 200 points. As it turned out, however, South's aggressive bidding got him to a doubtful game contract which in accurate defence allowed him to fulfil.

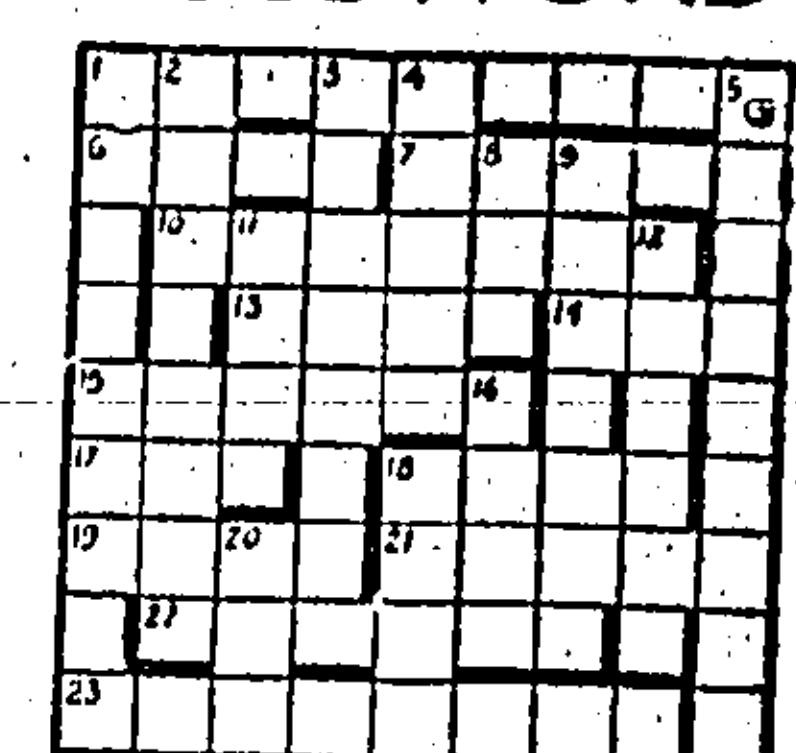
West properly opened the seven of hearts, and East put up the jack. South wisely refused to win this trick, but took the next trick with the heart ace when East continued by leading the heart king.

South counted his tricks and saw that he needed at least one club to make his game contract. Hence he properly led a club at once. No defence could defeat him, for the enemy could not bring in the long heart suit. If West won the first round of clubs, he could not lead a heart (for he had already played both of his hearts). And if East won the first club trick, he could set up his hearts but could never regain the lead to cash his heart tricks. Declarer therefore scored game and rubber.

East made his mistake at the first trick. When his partner led the seven of hearts, it should have been obvious that South held all the higher hearts—and consequently two sure heart tricks. There was a chance to beat the contract if West could gain the lead while he still held a heart. Therefore East should have played the six of hearts at the first trick! South would win and lead clubs, but West would be able to win the first club and lead his remaining heart. This would set up the heart suit for East, and eventually he would get in with his club king to run his hearts.

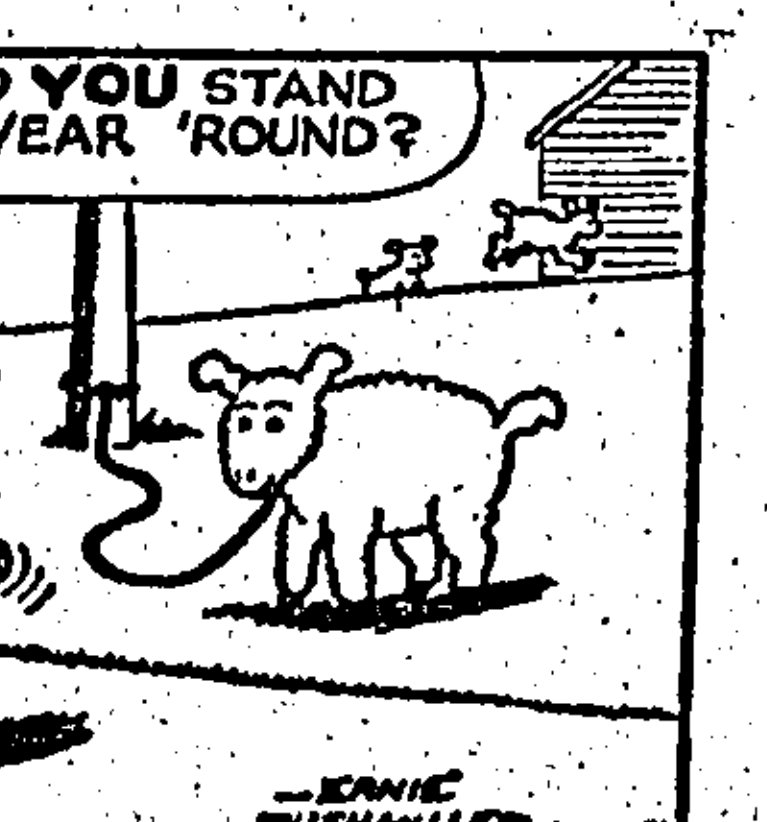
"Well, one of the papers that!"  
"Yes."  
"Do you mind if I tell you something?"  
"It depends what it is."  
"You're not going to like it."  
"Aren't I?"  
"I expect you'll hit me when I tell you."  
"I don't suppose I shall."  
"You'll hate me anyway."  
"Not at all."  
"You're sure you're Mr Gubbins?"  
"Yes."  
"And you write articles for one of the papers?"  
"Yes."  
"Do you know what I think of them?"  
"No."  
"Piffle."  
"I'm sorry you think so."  
"Piffle, piffle, piffle. That's straight from the shoulder, isn't it?"  
"It certainly is."  
"I'm not a man that salutes words."  
"Obviously."  
"John Blunt, that's me."  
"Glad to meet you, Mr Blunt."  
"And that's not my proper name, neither."  
"Isn't it?"  
"Mr Clever."  
"Clever's not my name either."  
"So don't try to be funny."  
"I'm not."  
"I don't let nobody take a rise out of me."  
"I'm not trying to take a rise out of you."  
"If anybody wants to come the acid with me they know what to expect."  
"I'm sure they do."  
"Just because I said your articles was piffle."  
"I assure you I don't mind."  
"Yes you do."  
"Really, I don't."  
"Perhaps you think I'm no judge?"  
"No, I don't think so."  
"Then why don't you mind?"  
"You can't mind everything."  
"I suppose so, opinions as good as anybody else's?"  
"Certainly."  
"And if I want to say anything about anything I shall say it."  
"Why not?"  
"It's a free country, isn't it?"  
"More than most."  
"Piffle."  
"All right, piffle."  
"Mr Clever."  
"Mr Blunt."  
"Piffle, piffle, piffle."

## CROSSWORD



1. You can't call them stay-at-home. (9)  
2. Silver that is added to wine. (4)  
3. You can get him from the money. (10)  
4. Strip of leather. (6)  
5. Sort of thing to make the cat do. (3)  
6. Showing round the nostrils. (5)  
7. To the wind. (4)  
8. Depart. (4)  
9. Just the time to start thoughtful. (6)  
10. Name. (5)  
11. On the dot. In other words. (4)  
12. The inscription at the end of the book. (8)  
13. Most being (anag.). (5)  
14. When time meant everything to Gladiolus. (8)  
15. Run a gun and make a plant. (4)  
16. A gun and animal money. (10)  
17. They are glad when their watch stops. (4)  
18. An even alternative. (5)  
19. Try a fit for change. (7)  
20. Do they mean using their heads to win the boat race? (8)  
21. It may elevate or allow descent, depends which way you go. (4)  
22. 20 Lufthansa. (5)  
Solution of yesterday's puzzle: Across: 1. Piffle. 2. Piffle. 3. Piffle. 4. Piffle. 5. Piffle. 6. Piffle. 7. Piffle. 8. Piffle. 9. Piffle. 10. Piffle. 11. Piffle. 12. Piffle. 13. Piffle. 14. Piffle. 15. Piffle. 16. Piffle. 17. Piffle. 18. Piffle. 19. Piffle. 20. Piffle. 21. Piffle. 22. Piffle. Down: 1. Piffle. 2. Piffle. 3. Piffle. 4. Piffle. 5. Piffle. 6. Piffle. 7. Piffle. 8. Piffle. 9. Piffle. 10. Piffle. 11. Piffle. 12. Piffle. 13. Piffle. 14. Piffle. 15. Piffle. 16. Piffle. 17. Piffle. 18. Piffle. 19. Piffle. 20. Piffle. 21. Piffle. 22. Piffle.

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## Women BEAUTY ARTS

By LOIS LEEDS



Posed for Lois Leeds.

Hair is a Top Note in good grooming!

### TEEN TOPICS

It's a wise girl that knows that beautiful hair is a major requirement for a degree in Good Grooming. Any school miss should know that 50 to 100 strokes a day with her hairbrush is a part of the plan. And a brush is also a reliable aid in arranging any kind of hairdo. A few minutes before class time and "date" time will be enough to give you a roll-wave finish to the ends of your hair.

### Smartness



Introducing to-day Mrs. Eileen Foot, of Bexley, Kent. She is a City secretary, aged 32. Her primrose yellow coat and belt made a brave splash of colour at Cannon-street Station.

With rounded shoulder-line the coat is made in a diagonal-weave wool. Her beret, the identical shade of yellow, is adaptable, tucked into any shape. Mrs. Foot wears yellow leather gloves, and the green scarf—worn round her neck, not her head—matches her eyes.

Minnie Makay  
by GABRIELLE



For that so dry skin, steam in your cream. Choose a lanolin type cream for the softening qualities. Once a week give yourself an extra special treatment. Cover your head with a towel and bend over a bowl of steaming hot water. Let the cream melt and just steam into the skin. Rinse with icy cold water.

### SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



"You heard me—he's 11 years old! Do you think I'd perjure myself for \$3,000?"

## NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE

Rome.—Football pools are the newest and biggest craze in Italy. Recently three Romans, among them a 16-year-old orphan shoeblack, won £1,000 each. In Naples, a bank clerk won £2,000 a week for three weeks for a total outlay of two shillings.

### MIRACLE MAN

Johannesburg.—The "miracle man" of the Springbok cricket team which won the Ashes in England next year is Athol Town, a 20-year-old Johannesburg all-rounder. He was tipped for international honours 10 years ago when still a schoolboy at the famous Jeppe High School, which has turned out more international cricketers than any other South African school.

### FAIR EXCHANGE

New York.—H. L. Mencken, who is to America, more or less, what Shaw is to Britain, will have free beer for the rest of his life in exchange for the film rights to an essay he wrote in 1917. He suggested the manner of payment to a Canadian film company because he likes beer and because the essay does not contain "one word of truth." He wanted an informal contract but received a legal document, with an actuarial table enclosed.

Said Mr. Mencken, who is 68: "They gave me 20 years to live, but, hell, I won't get the beer away if I die." He insisted on one amendment in the contract: "Mr. Mencken will never have to see the picture."

### BOVINE PATRIOT

Copenhagen.—Apparently in an attempt to increase Denmark's agricultural output, a cow belonging to farmer Koel Jensen has given birth to quadruplets. All four calves are doing well. The same cow gave birth to twins 10 months ago.

### "I WAS MAD"

Paris.—Louis Bourret, 38-year-old son of a bourgeois family and publisher of a children's newspaper, "Robin the Squirrel," sat in a green armchair recently and confessed to killing his mistress and their two-year-old baby girl. "I was mad," he said. Bourret said he argued with his mistress and the baby began to cry. He choked it to stop it and then slashed his common law wife with a knife.

### DANCE HALL FRACAS

Calcutta.—Twenty men of the 1st Battalion Wiltshire Regiment are to be court-martialled soon for their part in the Boxing Night raid by 200 British troops on a dance hall at Jhansi, United Provinces. During the raid, alleged to have been a reprisal for the refusal of girls in the same hall to dance with British soldiers on Christmas Eve, a number of Anglo-Indian men and girls were injured.

### NORWEGIAN TIMBER

Oslo.—Two million four hundred thousand cubic metres of timber have been cut so far this season in Norway. This is one million cubic metres more than the previous season.

### DEATH BY BLOWPIPE

Buenos Aires.—Savages attacked a Brazilian Government expedition in the virgin Amazon jungle recently, killing 10 and injuring seven with arrows poisoned with curare and 'omahawks'. The aboriginal Indians use blowpipes, and the poison causes death by paralysis quickly. Victims are of the Mairari tribe which has never contacted civilisation.

During the battle, the radio operator escaped and returned later to bury the dead single-handed, attend to the wounded and radio information.

### AS YOU LIKE IT

Oslo.—The Norwegian scientist, Thor Heyerdahl, is planning to drift on a raft, together with five other Norwegians, from Peru to islands in the Pacific. It is expected to cover the distance of 6,500 kilometres in about 140 days.

### CLEVER SOVEREIGNS

Brussels.—King George V sovereigns, coined outside Britain, are fetching £6 each in the black market. They are good imitations, containing the same amount of gold as good sovereigns but are slightly more yellow in colour. On the reverse side, the ground on which the St George killing the dragon emblem is raised in relief is flat, where it is slightly concave on the coin.

### CIGARETTE LOAN

Rome.—The Italian Government has applied to the Export-Import Bank for a loan of £1,250,000 with which to buy tobacco from Virginia and Kentucky. The loan is asked as a first instalment of a \$3,750,000 loan with which Italians hope to be able to manufacture cigarettes for export.

## Theatre With Love Seats

A new departure in picture theatres is planned to open soon in New York, complete with every facility for romance.

Among the new features of the Park Avenue Theatre are love seats for everyone who wishes to cuddle, free hearing aids, a clubroom in the lobby, art exhibitions, television and free refreshments.

A women's lounge will provide a complete beauty service with free cosmetic packets and "beautician" always on duty.

A men's lounge is to be equipped with free "colletes" for the hair. Park Avenue Theatre would be open only to members who reserved seats on a yearly basis.

The announcement does not say so, but it is assumed that pictures would be showing on the screen for those who care to look.

## Protracted Lawsuit For Islands' Title

A protracted law suit is going on between a South African woman and the American Government about the rights of possession of a group of 50 islands in the Pacific.

## BOOM YEAR FOR U.S. EMBEZZLERS

The year 1946 was a boom year for embezzlers in the United States. They walked off with \$100,000,000—more than \$250,000 a day.

The reason, according to the experts, is that big business is so busy making money that it was little time to watch its pockets.

Mr. Kenneth Wood, an official of the United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company, has shattered the general idea that embezzlers are handsome men with padded shoulders.

"Embezzlers," said Mr. Wood, "are never professional crooks, and they usually steal with the purest of motives. They are only the nicest people."

One woman stole \$35 from a firm to buy her husband an artificial leg.

Another woman, who later committed suicide, stole \$1,625 to keep her boy friend at the races.

### Average Embezzler

Mr. Wood, who has been chasing embezzlers for 32 years, carries this picture of the "average embezzler":

"He is about 36, married, with two children. He is brighter than the average workers and has a better future. He earns about \$20 a week, but that is not enough to keep up with his living."

Since 1938 embezzlement figures have doubled in the United States, and now, in the period of shortages, the sky is the limit.

"Losses in cash," said Mr. Wood, "are practically unimportant when placed alongside losses in vital materials."

## JAPANESE FAVOUR LOTTERIES

The Japanese Government, trying to absorb floating purchasing power and head off inflation, has found that a 100 yen and a packet of cigarettes will bring in 130,000,000 yen.

Government-sponsored lotteries, recent brainstorms of the Government to disperse hoarding and get some of the 64 billion new yen notes back into circulation, have proved tremendously popular with the Japanese.

Besides the "speed" lottery, which brought in 130 million yen, live issues of the "treasure" lottery have paid the Government 400 million yen.

A few weeks ago the Government announced that balloons, such as carried bombs to America during the war, will be moored over Tokyo soon to advertise the lotteries.

### Bank Deposits Frozen

When the Government issued new yen last April, all bank deposits were frozen and only limited withdrawals have been allowed.

Consequently farmers and fishermen, the only people with large amounts of goods to sell, are finding that for the first time in history they are accumulating all the yen of each of the nation.

The Government's anti-hoarding programme also encourages thrift by offering saving depositors' premiums, such as clothing, and even motor cars.

## WALKED STREET IN PYJAMAS

An actress claimed that an electrical shock she received at a hairdresser's caused her to walk the streets of Manchester (Lancashire) in pyjamas.

The actress, Mrs. Dorothy Wareham, sued a Manchester hairdressing firm for negligence.

Mrs. Wareham, a widow, is professionally known as Betty Brookes. She told the court that she received the shock while having her hair permanently waved.

"I was tied up by the hair" where there was a flash of sparks, and I couldn't free myself," Mrs. Wareham added.

"The shock gave me anxiety neurosis."

### Could Not Keep Job

"I have been unable to continue my part as comedienne in a revue at £22 a week."

"I have also had to postpone a contract for a South African engagement."

"I cannot concentrate my movements, and my son has twice found me in the streets at night in my pyjamas."

The hairdressing firm denied negligence.

They are the Palmyra Islands, and she and her husband have been living there for 30 years. She is Mrs. Ellen Fullard-Leo, granddaughter of an 1820 settler, who met her American husband while he was prospecting for diamonds in South Africa.

"After much travelling they reached Honolulu, where they joined a commercial organisation planning the development of Palmyra Islands, 900 miles to the south."

Mrs. Fullard-Leo was the company's secretary. She assisted in the annexation by the American Government of Kingsman's Reef Island, which, to-day, is an internationally important flying-bomb base.

The company finally went bankrupt and the islands were left in the hands of Mr and Mrs Fullard-Leo, who continued to trade in fish and coconuts.

In a letter received by her brother in Capetown, Mrs. Fullard-Leo stated that the American Government had hired two of the islands for naval purposes at a fee of £500. She signed the contract, but later heard from Washington that the Government would use the island regardless of private rights.

### U.S. Government to Appeal

The Government decided to refer the case to the Federal Court for decision, its argument being that the islands originally belonged to King Kamehameha of Hawaii, and that when the Hawaiian Islands were annexed in 1898, Palmyra Islands should have been included.

Mrs. Fullard-Leo declared that they had bought the islands directly from the former owner complete with title and transfer. The case came before the Honolulu Court twice and both times a verdict was given in favour of Mrs. Fullard-Leo.

The Government appealed to the higher Court at San Francisco and twice a decision was given to transfer the case back to Hawaii, where, once more, a decision was given against the Government.

The Government has now given notice of appeal to the High Court of Justice in Washington.

## France, Italy Favoured Hitler's Rise

Documents released recently by the State Department in Washington show that Italy and France, in 1931, were inclined to favour the rise of Hitler in Germany.

The documents were compiled from reports by Under-Secretary of State William Castle in 1931. They record Italian and French views of Hitler, expressed during a conversation between Castle and Italian Foreign Minister Grandi, when Grandi and Laval were attending a conference with President Hoover in Washington.

According to the documents Grandi was "inclined to agree with the French view that perhaps it might be just as well to have the Nazis in for a time as they would not dare to seriously change German foreign policy."

## Coconut Milk Yields Cream

The Food Ministry has promised luxury-starved Britons a new delicacy—coconut cream.

While Whitehall awaits news of the team of scientists "milking" coconuts on Samoa (South Pacific), the Ministry made Britons' mouths water with details of the new cream, now that the tang from the coconut could be extracted.

Coconut cream, said the Ministry, Tasted like the richest dairy cream. Remembered it so closely that neither babies nor adults could tell the difference.

Contained more fats, proteins and less water than dairy cream. Besides being an excellent drink, made delicious spreads for sandwiches and cakes, bringing a new flavour to ice cream.

Would cost half as much as dairy cream. Nazi food experts were also convinced that delicious cream without coconut flavour could be made from the nuts, but their experiments were not concluded.

## DUMB BELLS

OH, PROFESSOR, I UNDERSTAND YOU ARE AN AUTHORITY ON SUN SPOTS. CAN YOU DO ANYTHING ABOUT MY FRECKLES?



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